

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/064,907

Examiner

Cheukfan Lee

Applicant(s)

CHEN ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to June 6, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.


Cheukfan Lee

1. All pending claims 1-18 are allowed. Claims 7-18 are newly added. Claims 1, 7 and 13 are independent.

Claim 4 has been amended to overcome the objection set forth in the previous Office Action dated June 6, 2006.

The submission of the new Fig. 5 on March 6, 2006 has overcome the objection to the drawings. Fig. 5 is acceptable to the examiner.

The amendment to the specification is acceptable to the examiner.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-6 were indicated allowed in the previous Office Action dated March 6, 2006. The reasons for allowance given in the previous Action are still valid after the updated search. The reasons are repeated below.

Claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-6 are allowable over the prior art of record. The closest prior art, Yokochi (U.S. Patent No. 6,972,876), cited in that previous Action, discloses a method for determining a restored reading position after stopping the scanner head, the method comprising stopping the scanner head and defining a position (k) where the scanner head stops as a restored reading position, and controlling the directions of the drive motor. However, Yokochi does not disclose also defining a portion of data of the document scanned at the restored position as a restored graphic data and comparing the restored graphic data to graphic data obtained after moving the scanner head back and then forth with a first distance and a second distance smaller than the first distance, respectively, to select a graphic data closest to

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the restored graphic data defining connecting graphic data, and then connecting the connecting graphic data with graphic data scanned thereafter and with the restored graphic data as claimed in claim 1.

Claims 7-12 are apparatus claims corresponding to the method claims 1-6, respectively. Claims 1-12 are allowable for the reason given for claims 1-6.

Claims 13-18 claim an article, corresponding to the method claims 1-6, respectively. Claims 13-18 are allowable for the reason given for claims 1-6.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheukfan Lee whose telephone number is (571) 272-7407. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Cheukfan Lee
June 18, 2006


Cheukfan Lee